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Philadelphia, Saturday, January 31, 1920

GUFF FROM GAFFNEY

FROM the eloquent epideictic delivered by Councilman Joseph P. Gaffney, leader of the Left, over the new Council's salary roll we get the following choice expressions as worthy of preservation:

Not that we would intimate that these terms were original with Mr. Gaffney—far be it, for they have a strangely familiar sound. But they are interesting chiefly as showing a state of mind on his part that we venture to assert would never have been suspected of the genial, suave and usually dignified gentleman who used to function as the chairman of the competent finance committee in the old Council.

A VARE MAN

VOTERS may vote and reformers may aspire, and the critics may rage and the public may hope, but it will be a long time before politics in this city can be made altogether free of a scourge that is as deep rooted as typhoid and as hard to fight as bull weevils.

Chief Hepburn, of the Bureau of Street Cleaning, had starting proof of all this when, while the city wondered why dirt and disease-laden debris remained on big and little thoroughfares, he found enlightenment in the frank confession of an inspector who said bluntly:

This a vare man. He'll be here when you Vars take me to no anything. If I don't I have to go back on the job early tomorrow.

This man was discharged after he had been accused of a refusal to report flagrant violations of the street-cleaning contracts. His name ought to be published. And his statement of motives and principles should be largely engraved somewhere in a conspicuous place where voters might read it when they are disposed to wonder what has been the matter with Philadelphia.

ENDING A FERRY ANNOYANCE

A WELCOME removal of a penalty on preparatory is contained in the order of Regional Director Baldwin that trains in the Camden station must wait not only for the connecting ferriesboats whose departure is particularized in the time tables, but also for any preceding boats that may be delayed.

Under the old system passengers encountered with a special zeal for promptness were most unfairly handicapped. If their boats, boarded ahead of time, happened to be late their trains punctually and inconspicuously steamed out of the station according to schedule.

While, however, the new ruling is commendable, it serves also to accentuate the difficulties of boat and rail connections. There will be no necessity for the trains to leave via Camden terminal behind time when the trolleys which over the Delaware bridge. Responsibility will then rest solely on the individual passenger, by his tendencies dilatory or hustling.

DEMOCRATIC REPARTEE

UNDERTAKE! shouted Governor Edwards, of New Jersey, at Mr. Bryan, of Nebraska, after a doubtful reference to the Commager's work within his party.

"Murder!" snarled Mr. Bryan over half the country, in answer to Governor Edwards, when he wished to define in one deceptual word the result of labor done for this same party by Mr. Edwards and other "wets."

Both gentlemen seem to agree by inference that their party is done in.

Now and then you will find a Democrat who has an uncanny talent for clear disavowment.

PEACE-LOVING MILLINERS

MUCH as the call from New York to Philadelphia for a homey girl to show off pretty hats for the Retail Milliners' Association is to be resented, the invitation had at least the virtue of ignoring old rivalries. "Upliftation" is not even a word save in the topsy-turvy

realm of Carroll's Alice. We are quite content to be bracketed with New York when it comes to a shortage of unattractive damse.

The enforced conclusion is either that the milliners did not want any models at all or that they feared a request for fair fashions might reopen the world war. For there are precisely as many hamlets, towns, cities, states, nations and continents with the prettiest girls on earth as there are hamlets, towns, cities, states, nations and continents. The council of League of Nations, whatever its scope, wouldn't dare touch any competitive aspects of this topic.

True, there are certain grudgingly accepted conventions regarding the comeliness of the ladies of Cadiz, Seville, Arles, Burmah, Tahiti, Caucasian Georgia and the Marquesas. But these legends are not convicting to Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Louisville and New Orleans. We doubt even if they are convicting to Boston.

On the whole, it seems better for the milliners to have been merely rude than the instruments of a fierce belligerency.

EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS MUST FINANCE THEMSELVES

And the United States Must Practice Economy So That Private Funds May Be Available to Relieve Old World Industry

SECRETARY GLASS'S inference that the American people are not willing to tax themselves to pay the interest on the debt of European nations is based on a proper understanding of the state of mind on this side of the ocean.

The European nations already owe the United States Government \$9,450,000,000 on which they are unable to pay the interest. This money either has been borrowed by the government from the American people or raised by taxation. But it is a debt owed by the American Government and it must be carried until such time as the European nations discharge it. This suggestion has been made that we cancel it in the interest of world solvency.

Along with this suggestion comes the proposition of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States that a group of American representatives of commerce and finance confer with a similar group of Europeans for the purpose of discovering how much money Europe needs from this country to save it from bankruptcy.

But there is no disposition here to put up more public money for the use of the European governments. As Secretary Glass points out, these governments cannot be controlled from Washington, and we can have no control over the expenditure of money lent to them. While the gravity of the financial situation of Europe is admitted, the secretary holds that the governments over there must adjust their financing to their resources and that the funds for the industrial rehabilitation of the fighting nations must be raised by the ordinary processes of private financing.

Arrangements for such financial aid have already been made by the Edge law, which authorizes the formation of foreign trade corporations to advance money to European business men who wish to purchase American products and to float here in the form of debenture bonds the loans thus made. This plan relieves the government of financial responsibility and it provides a way for facilitating international trade.

There should go along with Secretary Glass's objections to the use of public money to relieve Europe a definite and positive policy of economy in the use of public funds for domestic purposes. But Congress does not seem to be devoting that attention to the conservation of the financial resources of the nation that conditions demand.

The interest on the national debt now amounts to about a billion dollars a year. Advocates of compulsory military training for the youth are attempting to secure the passage of a bill which will call for another billion dollars annually to carry out its provisions.

A group of western senators and representatives is working for a loan of \$250,000,000, on which the interest at a high rate would have to be paid, for the reclamation of arid and waste lands. The congressmen accustomed to spending money by the billion during the war regard this as a trivial sum, and are astonished at their moderation in asking for so little. They have lost their sense of values and their sense of proportion just as many of the business men who were drafted into government work during the war have found themselves temporarily disqualified to do private work.

The situation was described by an engineer who had been supervising construction work when he said that he never knew the value of a dollar. He had been ordered to push his work to completion regardless of the cost, so he had been concentrating his mind on results and not on anything else. It was not necessary for the government to earn money dividends on the capital invested. All it wanted was a product in the shortest possible time.

But private business cannot be conducted in this way. Neither can public business be long managed without disaster unless serious attention is given to the relation of the value of a product to the money spent for it.

The western congressmen have favored the pairing down of the rivers and harbors bill, while they instantly demand that a much larger sum be used for the socialistic projects of land reclamation in sparsely populated states. Such a provincial view ought not to prevail. Yet the states of Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico and Montana, with a total population no larger than that of the city of Philadelphia, have ten men in the Senate committed to the reclamation projects, while there are only six senators interested in the development of the Delaware river.

It should be obvious that when Congress has to cut down its appropriations it should not diminish the amounts spent to benefit large populations while it increased the amounts asked for by small groups of people. If appropriations are to be scaled down—and every one seems to admit that they must be—they should be scaled down with some regard to the populations affected.

But a bond issue for new improvements is out of the question at the present time. The war loans have not been digested. They are clogging the banks and absorbing money that should be freed for the use of ordinary business. Men bought the bonds under pressure. Many of them who might have paid for them gradually out of their current incomes have spent their incomes for other purposes and are still allowing the banks to carry the bonds for them. Some of the banks have begun to demand the payment or reduction of the loans, and business men are finding it difficult to adjust themselves to the situation.

There will be trouble and uncertainty until these government securities have been paid for out of the earnings of the people and have ceased to become a burden on the banks. And until this time comes it will be virtually impossible to float a government loan for any purpose whatsoever. If we cannot borrow money for national improvements we cannot borrow it to lend to Europe for business purposes.

RELIEF BY FOOD DRAFTS

FEAR of the red tape which sometimes creeps and confines humanitarian enterprises need not be entertained regarding the system of food drafts for Europe, which are now purchasable in Philadelphia and other American financial centers.

Mr. Hoover recently announced that as soon as shipping conditions permitted the relief administration would enable individuals to purchase these drafts at banks, and that the European friend or relative in whose favor it was drawn could cash the slip in for food as soon as it reached him by mail. Provisions are now stored in great warehouses in Warsaw, Hamburg, Vienna, Budapest and Prague. American cargo vessels will keep them supplied.

The whole process is refreshingly simple and explicit. Americans who, in view of the magnitude of the distress in Europe, may have felt personally impotent can now easily indulge their generous impulses. Three banks in this city already have the drafts for sale. Similar institutions are to follow suit.

A \$10 draft will supply the beneficiary with twenty-four and a half pounds of flour, ten pounds of beans, eight pounds of bacon and eight cans of milk. The costly trimmings of relief drives are economically eliminated. Laudable in spirit as these were, the change is stimulating, and it ought to be inspiring to Americans who know of specific cases of suffering.

REVEAL FLETCHER'S FINDINGS

CRITICISM of the administration's unintelligible Mexican policy frequently meets with the retort that the general public is not in possession of sufficient facts to argue the question. This is perhaps true, but the fact in itself constitutes an exceedingly weak defense.

Correct information about Mexico is sorely needed in this country. The State Department, however, pursues a policy of mystery and concealment, and in the past has even requested the exemption of the whole topic from journalistic discussion. If this attitude was defensible during the critical war period it is so no longer. For this reason, among others, the withholding from the public of Ambassador Fletcher's resignation letter seems unjustifiable.

Mr. Fletcher may have summed up some significant facts concerning the Carranza government and the effects upon it of our own government's vacillation. Disclosure of his findings would enable Americans, quite apart from partisan considerations, to obtain some intelligent and specific view of Mexican affairs. The public has no desire either to criticize in ignorance or to be merely ignorant and mute.

HYMEN DISCOURAGED

MISS PAULINE GOLD, manager of the women's service section of the railroad administration, in her annual report to Director General Hines, says 18,802 women are still in the railroad service and that women will undoubtedly progress further in an era of work.

Which suggests that in 1920 Mr. Silvermark, superintendent of the municipal creche and employment bureau, may report to the Mayor that the number of men enrolled for general housework has increased to seven thousand, while the number of those who are taking the course for the care of small children has grown at so gratifying a rate as to encourage the hope that they may in the near future fit themselves for the station in life in which the stronger and more competent sex has placed them.

MAY WORK WITH THE ROSE; NOT WITH THE YUK

There is a great deal in a name, Shakespeare says, and the contrary notwithstanding, New York has more cases of "flu" this winter than last. But in October, 1918, a dread disease was labeled "flu" and public excitement was in a measure allayed. This year the penalty is being paid for the euphemism, for there is a distinction between "flu" and "grippe" prevailing as identical with the plague that a year ago swept the country.

TIME WILL TELL

Condemnation of "Albin's" perfidy in Persia should be tempered by the fact that the stress allged world-dissatisfaction with the industrial and political conditions that made a bargain, admittedly bordering on a protection, perhaps a present necessity. It might be well to reserve judgment until all the cards are on the table.

LORD LEVENEUR

In an interview in New York Lord Levene favored prohibition for England. He added that it would enable Great Britain to pay all her debts in five years. Here is one man who was not carried into the House of Lords by beer. He was washed in with soap.

SATISFACTION

In the fact that a London-New York airline is one of the possibilities of the near future is tempered by the knowledge that it is an English combination that has the enterprise in hand and not an American one.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE

is considering the making of a law requiring four days to elapse between the issuance of a license and the performance of the marriage ceremony. This is a cruel blow to Elkton and Dan Cupid.

JAPANESE ACQUITTED

of murder in Los Angeles is paying board to the sheriff for the privilege of remaining in jail. This is disquieting. It throws doubt on the declaration that the way of the transgressor is hard.

TEACHERS

There is a girl in a New York hospital whose specialty is teaching babies to smile. The tragedy concealed in the fact is that there are babies who need to be taught.

WOODWARD LOOKS FORWARD

New Secretary of Internal Affairs Has Force of Field Agents Collecting Figures Concerning the Industries of the State

By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN
SECRETARY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS WOODWARD is a very forward-looking official. The spirit of the new dispensation at Harrisburg looms large before him.

His latest innovation is one that is certain to arouse the interest and co-operation of every manufacturing plant in the Commonwealth and southeastern Pennsylvania. He has established an office for his bureau of statistics in this city. It isn't a large, commodious, well-furnished and elaborately equipped headquarters. Not by any means. It is a room with a desk and a few chairs that he has commandeered in the suite of the Workmen's Compensation Bureau.

There are no clerks, stenographers, secretaries or messengers. It is a business office, and will be open for business only about two days in the week. In this respect it differs from many other political offices which usually are open daily to give jobholders something to do and a place to go.

Here is the verbal blueprint of the secretary's scheme.

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

maintains a statistical bureau, which in turn employs a staff of field agents. It is the duty of this staff to collate all available figures concerning the industries of the state; amount of production, cost and everything of interest pertaining to work and wages.

M. Hoke Gottschall is chief of the bureau. He is the product of a wide search for brains for a post-graduate course in Harrisburg on Philadelphia. I have known Mr. Gottschall since his sophomore days in college, and he is a man worth knowing. He was appointed to his present position the first of the year, and already, as the late General Thomas J. Stewart would remark, "he's got things running round in circles in this industry."

The statistical field agents have heretofore been reporting to headquarters in Harrisburg. On occasions they had to go up to Harrisburg on business. It cost time and the state's money and trouble. Hereafter they will stick on the job.

One of the first assignments of Mr. Gottschall's deputies will come to Philadelphia, meet the field agents, receive their reports, map out their work and issue instructions on the ground. The advantages of the new system are self-apparent. Instead of a bunch of field agents running up to Harrisburg, Harrisburg comes to them.

All of which indicates that M. Hoke Gottschall is on to his job.

ANOTHER EVIDENCE OF THE PERSPICACITY

of Secretary Woodward is that when he requires an expert he goes where experts are to be found. When he needed an apostle of tongue and pen to keep the municipalities of the state posted on the cost and varied conditions of the department, he selected a newspaper expert in the person of Robert T. Gorman. Gorman can talk as well as write. In his dual capacity he is another asset of worth.

As I have aforementioned, every department in Harrisburg is being equipped with the publication facilities. Reports are held up for years. They age out of date before they are in print. The publication system is a farce.

But Messrs. Woodward, Gottschall and Gorman will bridge the difficulty—in a way. They will issue bulletins in pamphlet form of the work of the statistical department. They will be up to date and available to every one interested.

Just now the big statistical drive is on textiles. The first bulletin will have to do with the woolen and worsted industries. The action of the Department of Internal Affairs is a long step forward in efficiency.

MY FRIEND JOHN P. DOHONEY

chief of the bureau of accidents of the Public Service Commission, is convinced of two things, he tells me, viz., that we are entering upon the horseless age and that the number of reckless fools is increasing out of proportion to the increase of population in the state.

And he cites figures in proof of his convictions. It is the business of the bureau of which Mr. Dohoney is the head to investigate every railway and trolley accident that occurs anywhere in the state. He knows, therefore, what he is talking about.

The big majority of grade-crossing accidents are to automobiles. Grade-crossing accidents to teams were 50 per cent less than the preceding year; while 256 occupants of motor vehicles were killed or injured, as against 100 in horse-drawn vehicles met with injuries.

All of the persons injured at crossings, 91 per cent were struck at crossings protected by gates. This would seem almost inexplicable were it not, as Mr. Dohoney points out, that 91 per cent of the accidents were the result of a horse crossing the tracks under the gates.

The pathetic side of this exhibit of criminal negligence and idiotic disregard of personal safety is presented in the statement that four crossing watchmen were killed and thirteen injured in the attempt to keep the fools from rushing into the arms of death.

While Mr. Dohoney's assumption is correct that the number of fools is increasing, it is also apparent that the fool-killer is on the job.

WALTER T. MERRICK, former naval officer of this port, hefted in 250 pounds of smiling personality into the city yesterday. It was the first breathing spell, he informed me, that he had had in weeks. The Honorable Walter is, as usual, in point up to his eyes. He is a candidate for Congress up in the big Fifteenth district, which comprises Lycoming, Tioga, Potter and Clinton counties. He is from Tioga. It is a triangular fight, with two other candidates, Bruce C. Keffer and Edgar R. Kieiss, the present member, involved and the outer walk of the Lycoming county has held the congressional seat for twenty years, and that Tioga is always safely Republican, gives Mr. Merrick a mighty good and logical leverage in his fight. The demand for rotation in office is always a dangerous slogan, and Mr. Merrick will adorn his banners and the outer walls of the Fifteenth district with it in large and luminous letters.

The further fact that Congressman Kiess has opposition in his own county leaves the door of hope open to Merrick, who hopes to slip through while Keffer and Kiess go to the mat.

Some price-fixers get their idea of "fair" from the weather bureau.

It is the opinion of soldiers more or less wise that Berdold lacks intelligence enough to feign lunacy successfully.

College presidents meeting in Harrisburg recommended that tuition fees be raised to meet rising costs. Emerson and Polonius suggest. They begin baphazard. As we

SCRAPS

"CAN ANYHOW YOU CAN'T TELL ME ANYTHING!"

"IF THEYD ONLY KEEP AT IT."

"COMPROISE NEGOTIATIONS"

"HEE-HAW!"

"PUFF, PUFF!"

"I'VE GOT A 100,000 ARMY."

"MISTER, HORNZOLLERN HAD A BIRTHDAY, HE DID."

THE CHAFFING DISH

On Making Friends

CONSIDERING that most friendships are made by mere hazard, how is it that men find themselves equipped and fortified with just the friends they need? We have heard of men who asserted that they would like to have more money, or more books, or more pairs of pajamas; but we have never heard of a man saying that he did not have enough friends. They satisfy us completely. One has never met a man who would say, "I wish I had a friend who would combine the good humor of A, the mystical enthusiasm of B, the love of doughnuts which is such an endearing quality in C, and who would also have the habit of giving Sunday evening suppers like D and the well-stocked cellar which is so deplorably lacking in E."

No! The curious thing is that at any time and in any settled way of life a man is generally provided with friends far in excess of his desert, and also in excess of his capacity to absorb their wisdom and affectionate attentions.

There is some pleasant secret behind this. A secret that none is wise enough to fathom. The infinite fund of disinterested humane kindness that is adrift in the world is part of the riddle, the insoluble riddle of life that is born in our blood and tissue. It is agreeable to think that no man, save by his own gross fault, ever went through life unfriended, without companions to whom he could stammer his momentary impulses of sagacity, to whom he could turn in hours of loneliness. It is not even necessary to know a man to be his friend. One can sit at a lunch counter, observing the moods and whims of the white-coated pie-passer, and by the time you have juggled a couple of fried eggs you will have caught some grasp of his philosophy of life, seen the quick edge and tang of his humor, memorized the shrewdness of his worldly insight and been as truly stimulated as if you had spent an evening with your favorite parson.

THERE were no such thing as friendship existing today, it would perhaps be difficult to understand what it is like from those who have written about it. We have tried, from time to time, to read Emerson's enigmatic and rather frigid essay. It seems that Emerson must have put his cronies to a severe test before admitting them to the high-valued and rather draughty halls of his intellect. There are fine passages in his essay, but it is intellectual, bloodless, heedless of the trifling oddities of human intercourse that make friendship so satisfying. He seems to insist upon a sterile ceremony of mutual self-improvement, a kind of religious ritual, a profound interchange of doctrines between soul and soul. His friends (one gathers) are to be anticipated, all the poisons and pestilence of their faulty humors are to be drained away before they may approach the white and icy operating table of his heart. "Why insist," he says, "on rash personal relations with your friend? Why go to his house, or know his wife and family?" And yet does not the botanist like to study the flower in the soil where it grows?

POLONIUS, too, is another ancient supposed to be an authority on friendship. The Polonius family must have been a thoroughly dreary one to live with; we have often thought that poor Ophelia would have gone mad anyway, even if there had been no Hamlet. Laertes preaches to Ophelia; Polonius preaches to Laertes. Laertes escaped by going abroad, but the girl had to stay at home. Hamlet saw that pithy old Polonius was a preposterous and orotund ass. Polonius's doctrine of friendship—"The friends thou hast, and their adoption-ried, grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel"—was, we trow, a necessary one in his case. It would need a hoop of steel to keep them near such a dismal old sawmonger.

FRIENDSHIPS, we think, do not grow up in any such carefully tended and contented fashion as Messrs. Emerson and Polonius suggest. They begin baphazard. As we

THE SAVING GIFT

PURE youth takes wings, forsaking me, And leaves me lone with freedom of the hills. Give me the freedom of the hills, Man's ancient heritage; I crave the friendship of the birds, The kinship of the trees That greet all understanding folk With kindly courtesies.

Though some contented are to tread A straight and narrow groove, Give me the freedom of the plains, Wherein to tread the ad and move; For though 't' said of rolling stones They gather little moss, When all is in the crucible What's a gold and what is a dross?

Old instincts are but covered fires That flash to flame anew; Give me the freedom of the seas That in a time's twilight draw My forefolk from their ancient shores With strange, enchanting spells, When singing to the rhythmic waves They launched their coracles.

Since all I am and all I have Shall fade and fall like mist, Give me the freedom of the winds That wander where they list, Now north, now south and now where dawn Red roses on her breast, Comes up the skies, and now where moon And sun go down to rest.

All things that sing, all shining shapes, All hills, wide seas, all plains, loud winds— They make and keep us young; For if our spirits, like our flesh, Beneath grim time's decree, Grow old, and crumpled by dying fires, Oh, wonderful it would be! —Roderic Quinn in the Sydney Bulletin.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. What is heckling?
2. What are witches' thimbles?
3. What republic named its capital after an American President?
4. What is argon?
5. What is amortization?
6. What are capers?
7. Who was Samuel D. Gross?
8. What is a mortise?
9. Who was the classical god of dream?
10. What character of plays did Aristophanes, the Greek dramatist, write?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Odin was the chief god in Scandinavian mythology. He was regarded as the source of wisdom and the patron of culture and heroes.
2. Two Presidents of the United States, Thomas Jefferson (for his first term) and John Quincy Adams, were elected by the House of Representatives.
3. Cicero, the Roman orator, was born 106 B. C. and died 43 B. C.
4. Jefferson City is the capital of Missouri.
5. The first daily paper in the United States, the Advertiser, was issued in Philadelphia in 1784.
6. The treaty of Ghent, between Great Britain and the United States, was signed before the final action in the war of 1812 was fought. The event took place in December, 1814, and the battle of New Orleans occurred in the following January, 1815.
7. The baobab is an African tree with an enormously thick stem. It is also called the monkey-bread tree.
8. To eke means to supplement, to contrive to make a livelihood or to contrive to support an existence. The word, as an adverb, means also.
9. In England "I. S. Belam" alluding to the initials for pounds, shillings and pence, means money-worship.
10. Scaly belong to the Phocidae family.